

CPC Meeting Minutes – December 2nd 2009

The Community Preservation Committee met jointly with the Advisory Committee in the Juliani Meeting Room at the Wellesley Town Hall on December 2nd, 2009 at 7:30 PM.

Present were members of NRC, Advisory, WHC and the following CPC members: Jack Morgan (chair), Tony Parker (vice chair), Kara Cicchetti, Jim Conlin, Bob Goldkamp, Allan Port, Rose Mary Donahue, Stephen Murphy, and Joan Gaughan. Susan Minio, CPC administrative assistant was also present.

Peter Cory, Chair of the Wellesley Advisory Committee, called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. Jack Morgan, Chair, Wellesley CPC called the CPC meeting to order at 7:40 pm.

The Natural Resources Commission made a presentation on the Fuller Brook Park Project. Chris Green, Senior Associate from Halvorson Design Partnership presented the report findings including an assessment of the parks issues and Halvorson's proposed solutions. Some of the issues discussed include: water drainage, erosion, accessibility, invasive vegetation, and pathway deterioration. Halvorson recommends the removal of the invasive vegetation, replanting of healthy trees and appropriate vegetation, brook bank repair, bridge footing repair, path upgrades (with an eight foot wide porous surface), drainage correction, and park entrance upgrades.

After the presentation, questions were posed by CPC, WHC, and Advisory. On behalf of the CPC, Jack Morgan thanked the NRC for the thorough presentation, explained the constraints surrounding the use of CPC funding for park projects at the current time and began the question segment of the meeting. Some of the questions raised included the involvement of the Wellesley DPW (DPW attended a previous meetings on the project), the cost and length of the project, the width of the pathways and other relevant pieces of the project and their price vs. value proposition. There was additional conversation surrounding the park's National Historical Registry status and the additional approvals that may be needed in the completion of the project. This raised a short discussion around the differences between eligibility under Historic Resources, Open Space and Recreation and the implications for CPC funding eligibility.

At 9:30 PM the joint meeting adjourned and CPC reconvened in the Great Hall at Wellesley Town Hall.

Present were Stephen Murphy, Joan Gaughan, Tony Parker, Kara Cicchetti, Rose Mary Donahue, Allan Port, Jack Morgan, Bob Goldkamp, Jim Conlin, and Susan Minio, (CPC administrative assistant).

Jack Morgan began the meeting with a discussion around how to structure the articles and motions at the Annual Town Meeting (ATM). The options discussed included presenting

the projects as a single motion; separating projects into two buckets (those over \$100,000 and those under said amount); having each project as a separate motion for funding. After a brief discussion the general consensus was to have the Fuller Brook project considered under a separate Warrant Article presented by the NRC, with CPC making a motion within that Article to fund whatever portion it recommends. Within the CPC Warrant Article there would be one motion for CPC administrative expenses and reserve transfers, separate motions for any appropriations over a monetary threshold (tentatively \$100,000) and then a motion with all smaller projects as separate line items. Susan Minio is to get the dates from the Selectmen's Office for submitting Warrant Articles for the ATM and will share this with the CPC.

The second item on the agenda was a further discussion on the possibility of exploring additional funding of CPC projects through an increased surcharge. After a careful discussion it was agreed that the Committee would gently explore the idea with some key Town leaders and discuss this further at later CPC meeting once feedback and information is gathered.

Finally, Jack Morgan gave an update of a few outstanding projects including 27 Washington Street/ Charles River Bridge path project. The Selectmen are in discussions with National Development and will give an update on needed funding and timing for this project by the end of the year. In addition, Jack has asked that CPC receive an application and / or firm decision regarding the Electric Substation project by the December 16th meeting or else he will recommend that we defer consideration of this project to next year.

There was a very brief discussion around the Fuller Brook project presentation and Jack Morgan asked that the CPC collect their questions about the project as presented and the issues around funding and come prepared to continue the conversation at the next CPC meeting scheduled for December 9th.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15pm by Stephen Murphy and seconded by Jack Morgan. All were in favor.

The next meeting is scheduled for 7pm in the Kingsbury Room at the Wellesley Police Department.